

Benjamin J. Brown

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OBJECTIVE

I want to equip this generation of students for effective 21st-century ministry. I see SUM becoming a powerful training center with a worldwide impact, as students receive foundational instruction, experience world-class ministry, and launch out into their callings. As a worship leader in the local church for 25+ years, I have a special desire to see worship students develop the tools necessary to implement quality, relevant, Spirit-empowered worship ministry in the local church.

EDUCATION

- 2012 – 2013 Liberty University
*Master of Arts (worship studies) *graduated with honors / member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society**
- 2000 – 2007 Global University
Ministerial Studies – License (advanced to Ordination in 2022)
- 2000 – 2002 Millikin University
*Bachelor of Arts (music) *graduated with honors**
- 1997 – 1999 Lincoln Land Community College
Associate of Arts Degree

WORK EXPERIENCE

2020 – Present The House, Modesto (2,000 attendees post-pandemic) Modesto, CA
Worship Pastor: Have carried the responsibilities of a large worship department during one of the most turbulent seasons of church ministry – bringing needed stability through team development, vision-casting, and consistent worship ministry. Have crafted engaging set lists, facilitated weekly vocal/band rehearsals, and fostered meaningful and impactful worship times, in addition to coordination of special worship events and presentations. Have gained additional experience in production and post-production, with a focus toward use of tracks/clicks in live worship and development of quality streaming experiences for online and virtual communities. Have spearheaded a massive lighting/multimedia upgrade for the facility. Have engaged in general pastoral duties as assigned.

2017 – Present People of His Presence Ministries Modesto, CA
Author/Founder: Published *People of His Presence: Foundational Studies in Praise and Worship* and established a worship resourcing ministry for the local church. Ministered in various churches as a domestic evangelist in the Assemblies of God Northern California / Nevada network – working with worship teams and preaching/teaching concepts related to biblical corporate worship.

2016 – Present Southeastern University, Northern California Modesto, CA
Regional Campus Director: Coordinated affiliation with a regionally accredited, Assembly of God institution. Fostered continued campus growth, with an enrollment of 145 students in Fall of 2019 and one of the highest retention/graduation rates in Southeastern University's extended education program. Served as a course writer/developer for the worship program of the School of Unrestricted Education, creating original curriculum for Worship Leading I, Worship Leading II, Songwriting for the Church, Theology of Songwriting, Worship Music Theory I, Worship Music Theory II, and Applied Piano. Taught listed

classes. Mobilized worship students for participation in biweekly worship hours, monthly chapel services, and various off-campus leading opportunities. Continued to serve as a staff pastor at The House, Modesto.

2012 – 2016 The King’s University, Modesto Modesto, CA
University Site Director: Grew the program in Modesto to 120 students, a 50% increase in a little over three years, due to the organization of major college promotional events, development of an effective assimilation process, and increased student care. Secured additional teaching faculty, department staff, and student workers. Enhanced the ‘campus feel’ through development of a state-of-the-art student union / library / computer lab, student housing within walking distance of the campus, and partnership with The House’s café and fitness center. Made mentoring of every student a high priority, with the development of several hands-on practicums. Paved the way for an institutional change to branch status. Continued to serve as a staff pastor at The House, Modesto.

2008 – 2012 The House, Modesto (4,000 attendees) Modesto, CA
Associate Worship Pastor: Provided oversight of a larger music department, with numerous administrative responsibilities... Co-pastored an 80-voice choir and 20-member band/orchestra. Developed adequate job descriptions for all leaders within the ministry. Led worship during Monday night prayer meetings, Tuesday noon prayer meetings, larger events (CREST retreat, Change of Heart seminar, Cleansing Stream retreat), and weekend services in the worship pastor’s absence. Facilitated weekly vocal ensemble and horn section rehearsals, as well as choir and band rehearsals in the worship pastor’s absence. Directed the worship internship, with a focus toward revitalization of the program, student recruitment, core curriculum, development of objectives/assessments, equipment, budget, and ministry to the surrounding church. Co-established the CryOut Worship Network, a relational connecting place for Northern California worship leaders and their teams. Occasionally spoke at on-site worship conferences/workshops, as well as a Wednesday evening Bible study. Regularly maintained and updated a database of over 1,000 songs. Charted sheet music for worship department vocals, rhythm section, horns, and strings on a weekly basis; occasionally charted for outside ministries. Assisted with the production of two significant dramatic presentations per year, attended by thousands.

2006 – 2007 Golden Gate Assembly of God (300 attendees) Naples, FL
Staff Pastor: Served primarily as the church’s worship pastor, but also fulfilled other duties as assigned by the senior pastor. Established weekly rehearsals, coordinated quarterly fine arts events, and brought stability to a small choir and band. Developed an organized music library and adequate training tools for all music ministry personnel. Revamped a department manual, song database, and projection slides. Taught Sunday evening bible study classes as-needed. Coordinated weekly prayer gatherings and assisted in the planning and organization of large church events. Assisted youth ministry leadership during a pastoral transition.

2003 – 2006 Yosemite Christian Center (600 attendees) Madera, CA
Worship Pastor: Provided full-time oversight of the music department. Directed weekly rehearsals, coordinated special music, and established a 40-voice choir and 16-member band/orchestra. Added 300+ songs to a library of custom arrangements (vocal, piano, guitar, & orchestral scores) and created a series of rehearsal CDs for all musicians. Organized a detailed department manual, created an extensive song database, and developed projection lyrics for all songs. Taught foundational worship truths from the “People of His Presence” series, modifying and expanding the teaching. Produced two major musical productions, as well as a significant Debt-Free Celebration.

2002 – 2003 G.T. Church (1,200 attendees) Decatur, IL
Worship Team Leader: Worked closely with an experienced, seasoned music pastor in a mentorship. Served in various vocal/instrumental roles and filled important leadership positions in the music department. Led worship in the music pastor’s absence, as needed.

1995 – 2002 Pawnee Assembly of God (300 attendees)

Pawnee, IL

Worship Leader: Led youth worship as a volunteer for one year. Beginning in 1996, oversaw the entire music department in a part-time internship, and later, a full-time pastoral capacity. Directed weekly rehearsals, coordinated special music, and established a 25-voice choir and 18-member band/orchestra. Developed custom arrangements (vocal, piano, guitar, & orchestral scores) for over 500 praise and worship songs and created a series of rehearsal CDs and cassettes for all musicians. Organized a detailed department manual, an extensive song database, and power-point presentations for all songs. Taught foundational worship truths from the “People of His Presence” series. Co-produced two major musical productions, as well as an extensive Jubilee Celebration, commemorating the church’s 70th anniversary.

SKILLS

I am a Spirit-filled ordained minister with over a decade of ministerial experience in churches of 300-4,000.

I possess certain valuable traits:

- **Pastor/Teacher:** called by God to shepherd and disciple the church toward biblical discipleship
- **Administrator:** a self-motivated problem solver / highly-relational team player who organizes and implements substantial projects and day-to-day tasks successfully and effectively
- **Excellent Communicator:** gifted in articulating vision and exhorting the Body of Christ during times of worship
- **Empowering Leader:** one who recruits, trains, and releases people into ministry
- **Accomplished Musician:** vocalist (tenor/baritone) & instrumentalist (piano/keyboard/saxophone), skilled in sight-reading and ear-training, with extensive knowledge of music theory, composing/arranging, conducting, and charting